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mounds extended through very long periods of time and were the result of very slow accumulation, or that the shells existed formerly in much greater quantities than now." Granting the probability of the latter supposition, the former seems much the more reasonable, and every fact discovered with reference to these mounds strengthens the probability, if we must so limit it, of the great age of these traces of a perished race. It is a curious fact that stone implements "were seldom met with in making excavations in the shell-mounds," inasmuch as we associate them with all early traces of human occupancy of any locality; but some few specimens were met with, and we recognize them to be such paleolithic forms as characterize the French bone caves (see *Reliquiæ Aquitanicæ*) and even those of an earlier date, since some are mentioned by the author as "resembling somewhat the celts of the St. Acheul pattern." The figures on Plate II., especially 1, 2, and 7, are also identical in form with the rude implements from the river gravels of the Delaware Valley (New Jersey), as comparison with specimens in the Cambridge museum will show. Here again we have an undoubted indication of the antiquity of the shell-mounds, and of their pre-Indian origin. Of the pottery it is remarked that fragments "exist in the later but not in the oldest mounds." This would indicate an acquirement of the knowledge of utilizing clay for making cooking-vessels while the mounds were in course of construction, or accumulation, and certainly the specimens from the mounds figured Plate V., figs. 3, 4, 5, and 6, are of the very rudest description, and less elaborate in ornamentation than much of the ware made by the Indians of the more northern and western States. Professor Wyman remarks that "a comparison of the pottery from the shell-heaps of the St. John's with that from other parts of Florida shows the important fact that they have but little similarity."

Besides descriptions of stone implements and those of bone and of shell, admirable chapters on pottery, human remains, traces of cannibalism, flattened tibiæ, and allied subjects, go to make up the contents of this important memoir. We have not space to allude to these in detail. Certainly no student of American archæology can do without the work, if he wishes to be well informed in this branch of the science.

MARSHALL'S NOMENCLATOR ZOÖLOGICUS.<sup>1</sup> — The Zoölogical and Botanical Society of Vienna published in 1873 a *Nomenclator Zoölogicus*, prepared by Count Marschall, and intended to serve as a supplement to the well-known work of Agassiz. Not having been issued by a regular publishing house, the volume is less known than it would otherwise be. It purports to include all names of genera proposed for animals between 1846 and 1868, besides a few which were overlooked in the work

<sup>1</sup> *Nomenclator Zoölogicus*: continens nomina systematica generum animalium tam viventium quam fossilium, secundum ordinem alphabeticum disposita sub auspiciis et sumptibus C. R. Societatis Zoölogico-Botanicæ, conscriptus a comite AUGUSTO DE MARSHALL. 8vo, pp. vi. 482. Vindobonæ. 1873.

of Agassiz. It is not, however, based upon the comprehensive plan which renders the earlier work so valuable, and is far inferior to it, not only in plan but in execution. As far as we have noticed, all names of groups higher than genera have been omitted; the value gained by their introduction would have far more than compensated for the slight additional labor required. To have added the derivations, as Agassiz did, would have so greatly augmented the labor of the compiler, besides increasing the cost of the work, that we can scarcely blame the omission, valuable as they would have been. What we deem, however, one of the prime defects of the work is that the names are not grouped in a single series, but are scattered under twenty-one distinct headings (representing as many groups of the animal kingdom), and no general index is furnished; one of the most frequent uses to which works of this nature are put is in searching whether a name which it is proposed to adopt is already in use in zoölogy; but for this, one must now look through twenty-one different lists. When we add that the work is full of misprints, has many names out of the intended alphabetical order, and is certainly by no means complete,<sup>1</sup> we are obliged to confess that a most useful intention has been spoiled in the accomplishment.

HENTZ'S SPIDERS OF THE UNITED STATES.<sup>2</sup> — Besides its regular publications of Memoirs and Proceedings, the Boston Society of Natural History publish a series of Occasional Papers. The first of these was a collection and reprint in elegant style of the miscellaneous papers of the late Dr. T. W. Harris. A more useful work is the present reprint of the papers on our spiders, by Mr. Hentz. In its present form it will be the starting-point for future studies on this subject, and prove exceedingly useful from the large number of excellent figures, which represent however, species chiefly from the Southern States. The work has passed through careful editorial hands, and the drawings and notes by Mr. Emerton add not a little to the usefulness and value of the work. A biographical sketch is given by Mr. Burgess.

MORSE'S FIRST BOOK OF ZOÖLOGY.<sup>3</sup> — The fact that a second edition of this attractive little book has so soon appeared is good evidence of its entire fitness as an elementary book of zoölogy. The few typographical errors which occurred in the first edition have been corrected; otherwise the book is the same, and to our mind in its present form unexception-

<sup>1</sup> As a single instance we may cite the entire absence of the numerous genera proposed by Fieber in *Lotos*, during 1854. This is the more remarkable as Fieber's papers were noticed at the time in a literary review published in Count Marschall's own country, the *Bericht d. Oesterreich. Literatur*.

<sup>2</sup> *The Spiders of the United States*. A Collection of the Arachnological Writings of NICHOLAS MARCELLUS HENTZ, M. D. Edited by EDWARD BURGESS, with Notes and Descriptions by JAMES H. EMERTON. Occasional Papers of the Boston Society of Natural History. II. Boston. 1875. 8vo, pp. 117. With 21 plates. Cloth, \$3.50; paper, \$3.00.

<sup>3</sup> *First Book of Zoölogy*. By EDWARD S. MORSE, PH. D., etc. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Second Edition. 12mo, pp. 190. 1876. With many wood-cuts. \$1.25.